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News in Short





## KARNATAKA ISSUES

- A **crocodile park**, first of its kind, was commissioned at **Dandeli** in Karnataka recently near Dandelappa temple. The two-acre park has been built on the banks of **river Kali**. The project is implemented by the State tourism department.
- The Sacred Ensembles of the **Hoysala — the famed Hoysala temples of Belur, Halebid and Somananthpura** in the State — has been finalised as India's nomination for consideration as **World Heritage** for 2022-23.
- **Street vendors** selling food in BBMP jurisdiction will be able to ply their trade only after they undergo mandatory training and receive certification as per the new guidelines of the **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)**
- The **Indian Institute of Science (IISc.)** has installed and commissioned **Param Pravega**, one of the most powerful supercomputers in India, and the largest in an Indian academic institution, under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM). Its speed is 3.3 Petaflops.
- **BMRC** is contemplating adopting the **Miyawaki model** to increase the green cover for compensatory afforestation initiatives. It is a Japanese model used to grow forests in short amount of time
- The life of **Pandit Bhimsen Joshi**, whose 100th birth anniversary is on February 4, continues to be a source of inspiration for many youngsters who are passionate about music. He was born in Karnataka
- With almost all the 55,880 target population in the 15-17 years age group in **Gadag** being vaccinated with the first dose, this district is the first one in Karnataka to achieve **100% first dose coverage in children**.
- The Karnataka government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ather Energy and Electric Supply Companies (ESCOs) of the state in the presence of chief minister Basavaraj Bommai for setting up 1,000 fast-charging stations.
- **Fortis Cancer Institute** announced the installation of **Karnataka's first Intraoperative radiotherapy (IORT) system for the treatment of breast cancer**.
- Karnataka's tableau has been adjudged as the second best among 12 states and Union territories which participated in the **Republic Day parade** on January 26. Its theme was Karnataka: The Cradle of Traditional Handicrafts
- **Nimhans** informed that it aims to set up the **T-MANAS (Tele-Mental Health Assistance and Nationally Actionable Plan through States) initiative** as a 24x7 facility in all states and Union territories. Its vision is to provide immediate mental health interventions for people in mental distress, particularly those in remote and under-served areas of the country.
- Total **PM10 emission load for Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP)** will reach around 28,000 tonnes per year by 2024, a 15% increase from the 2019 levels under the



business-as-usual scenario (BAU), says a new study conducted by the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP).

- Padma Shri awardee and social worker **Ibrahim Sutar** passed away in Karnataka . Fondly referred to as the “**Kabir of Kannada**”, Sutar was known for his work towards spreading social and communal harmony
- The 11-day **tiger census** was conducted at **Male Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary** located in Chamarajanagar district of Karnataka. It is tiger estimation exercise conducted by National Tiger Conservation Authority once in 4 years
- According to Karnataka education ministry , ‘**Nanna Shale Nanna Koduge**’ app to be launched soon. It is a Scheme for school adoption by Department of Primary and Secondary Education to address infrastructure needs of government schools, shortage of teachers, optimal use of learning aids and utilisation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds.
- The **Indian Institute of Science (IISc.) in Bengaluru** has received its single largest private donation of ₹425 crore, which will be used to set up a postgraduate medical school along with a multispeciality 800-bed hospital on its Bengaluru campus.
- High Court of Karnataka declared certain provisions of the **Karnataka Police (Amendment) Act, 2021** as unconstitutional, which prohibited and criminalised the activities of offering and playing **online games**, by risking money or otherwise.
- The Karnataka High Court is hearing a challenge to the constitutionality of the state government’s ban on students wearing a hijab in educational institutions. In recent hearing, the judges heard an argument on whether the state can justify the ban on the ground that it violates ‘**public order**’. Public order is one of the grounds to restrict free speech and other fundamental rights
- **Channaveera Kanavi**, a prominent figure in modern Kannada literature and often referred to as ‘Samanvaya Kavi’ (Poet of Reconciliation), breathed his last
- The high-powered committee set up by the Union Government has approved the proposal to declare the **Upper Bhadra Project** as a national project, which would enable the State to get a ₹12,500 crore grant from the Centre to implement it. Sanctioning is done by Central water commission
- **Actor Darshan** appointed as ambassador of **Zoo Authority of Karnataka**
- Karnataka Health Department has relaunched its cochlear implant programme that had come to a standstill since 2018-2019. Under the original programme titled “**Shravanadosha Mukta Karnataka**” (Deafness Free Karnataka) started in 2016-2017, a hundred cochlear implant surgeries had been done for children under the age of six years However, the programme came to a halt in 2018 due to lack of funds. Recently , under the programme, a three-year-old male child from Ramanagaram underwent the surgery at the State-run K C General Hospital
- Karnataka government on Friday gave its approval to the Rs 93.40-crore ropeway project at **Nandi hills** under a public-private-participation (PPP) model.
- A recent Study on the impact of **Adani's Udupi Power Corporation Limited (UPCL)** has shown high levels of environmental pollution caused by violations with experts warning that the proposal to expand the plant by adding two 800 MW units will have adverse



consequences. The state government entrusted the Environment Management and Policy Research Institute (EMPRI) to conduct an environmental impact study, as per the directions of the National Green Tribunal (NGT).

- Karnataka tourism department to set up digital museum at **Sanganakallu**. It is a Archaeological site from the Neolithic period in Karnataka, First majorly excavated in 1946, by Bendapudi Subbarao
- Karnataka State Cabinet approved the **Energy Conservation and Energy Efficiency Policy** with a aim to Conserve about 744 Million Units (MUs) of energy till 2026 through energy efficiency measures.
- Karnataka activist seeks deemed forest status for **Western Ghat** areas. The concept of deemed forests has not been clearly defined in any law including the Forest Conservation Act of 1980. However, the Supreme Court in the case of T N Godavarman Thirumalpad (1996) accepted a wide definition of forests under the Act. It covered all statutorily recognised forests, whether designated as reserved, protected or otherwise for the purpose of Section 2 (1) of the Forest Conservation Act.
- With **Shuchi Scheme** delayed, girls face tough time in rural Karnataka. It is a menstrual hygiene project, aims at distribution of sanitary napkins
- Karnataka govt gives nod for **Mahadayi hydro power project** . It is a west flowing river that originates in Karnataka , joining the Arabian Sea in Goa
- **Nirbhaya Kendra** for distressed women, kids opened in Bengaluru. It aims to provide counselling, medical check-ups, legal advice & necessary assistance to women and children facing any kind of violence
- Karnataka launched **Pulse Polio - 2022 campaign**, as part of a nationwide drive. India launched the Pulse Polio immunisation programme in 1995. It is Highly infectious viral disease
- 350th anniversary of the coronation day of **Keladi Rani Chennamma** celebrated



## NATIONAL ISSUES

- The **Andhra Pradesh** government proposes to create 13 new districts — as many as the number that exist in the state now. According to a draft notification under **The Andhra Pradesh Districts (Formation) Act, 1974**, boundaries of existing districts will be redrawn to double the number of districts or revenue divisions to 26.
- **Services e-Health Assistance and Teleconsultation (SeHAT)** is the tri-services teleconsultation service of the MoD designed for all entitled personnel and their families. Home Delivery of medicines under SeHAT to begin soon
- **Parliamentary Budget session 2022-23** begins.
- **University Grants Commission (UGC)** has developed a **draft National Higher Educational Qualification Framework (NHEQF)**, which is part of a set of reforms that the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 envisages.
- Success of **Andhra Pradesh's CLAP scheme** is being discussed. Launched in October 2021 aims at Cleaning up rural areas and improve sanitation conditions and waste management
- Union Budget 2022-23 provided for a new scheme, **Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East (PM-DevINE)** will be implemented through the North-Eastern Council.
- **Project Management Institute (PMI)**, a not-for-profit global organisation that offers courses and certifications for project managers, has launched a portal to connect professionals with organisations looking for project management talent called '**Career Connect**'
- PM extended best wishes to **Indian Coast Guard** family on their Raising Day
- **Lt Gen Manoj Pande** takes over as vice chief of the army staff
- The **J&K Delimitation Commission**, which was constituted on March 6, 2020, not long after Jammu & Kashmir's special Constitutional position was ended in August 2019, is likely to get a second extension of its term. **DELIMITATION** is Process of fixing limits or boundaries of territorial constituencies in a state that has a legislative body.
- **Motion of thanks to President's Address** is put to discussion in Rajya sabha. **Article 86** of Indian constitution speak about President address to both houses
- **Chhattisgarh** becomes 35th State/UT to implement **One Nation One Ration Card**. It enabled migrant workers and their family members to buy subsidised ration from any fair price shop anywhere in the country under the National Food Security Act, 2013.
- The **Export Import Bank (EXIM) of India** and the Government of **Sri Lanka** signed a \$500-million Line of Credit agreement aimed at helping Sri Lanka cope with its fuel shortages, amid one of the worst economic meltdowns facing the island nation.



- Fitch Ratings said that beyond the higher capex drive, the Budget was short on major reform plans and the **fiscal deficit** target for 2022-23 at 6.4% of the GDP, was higher than the 6.1% it had anticipated
- Homestays would soon be allowed in the villages around **Sultanpur National Park in Gurugram** to promote tourism and provide an opportunity to the visitors to catch a glimpse of rural life in Haryana.
- The **Kerala** government announced the **country's first Graphene Innovation Centre**.
- PM presents Chadar to be offered at **Ajmer Sharif Dargah** on the **Urs of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti**
- **Dr. Madan Mohan Tripathi** has joined as Director General of **National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT)**
- The **Punjab and Haryana High Court** stayed a law that **reserves 75 per cent of jobs for Haryanvis in private establishments** across the state.
- With inclusion of two more wetlands, **Khijadiya Wildlife Sanctuary in Gujarat** and **Bakhira Wildlife Sanctuary in UP** in the Ramsar site list, **India** is now having the **largest network of Ramsar Sites in South Asia**
- Neighbours of a **Golden Langur** habitat in western Assam's **Kakoijana Reserve Forest** have opposed a move by the State government to upgrade it to a wildlife sanctuary.
- **February 4th 2022** marks hundred years of the **Chauri Chaura incident** that had led to Mahatma Gandhi calling off the Non-cooperation Movement.
- Central government has said **Green bonds** is set to have long tenure in future. Green Bonds are debt instrument with which capital is being raised to fund 'green' projects
- **Black percher or black ground skimmer** (*Diplacodes lefebvrii*), a species of dragon fly, was sighted for the first time in the **Seshachalam Hill ranges** recently. It belongs to the phylum arthropoda, class insecta and order odonata.
- Golden Jubilee celebrations of the **International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)** was recently celebrated. It is an International organization which conducts agricultural research for rural development
- NASA has announced that **INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION** will cease operations in 2031, after which it will fall out of orbit and plunge into the waters of the South Pacific Ocean. It is a habitable artificial satellite (approximately 250 miles above Earth)
- The 100-metre radius around Centrally protected monuments where construction is prohibited could be replaced with site-specific limits to be decided by an expert committee, as the Union Culture Ministry was working on amendments to the **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act, 1958**
- Prime Minister in Hyderabad Inaugurated Statue of Equality commemorating **Sri Ramanuja Acharya**, a 11th century saint of the Hindu Tradition.
- **Lata Mangeshkar**, affectionately called as "Nightingale of India" passed away
- Birth anniversary of **Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan** celebrated recently. He is known for Khudai Khitmatgar



- India won a record-extending fifth Under-19 World Cup title
- **Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit**, a political science professor at Savitribai Phule Pune University, has been appointed as the first woman V-C of JNU.
- The Union government released the **Central Media Accreditation Guidelines-2022**, under which the accreditation will be withdrawn or suspended if a journalist acts in a manner prejudicial to the country's security, sovereignty and integrity, friendly relations with foreign States, public order or is charged with a serious cognisable offence.
- The Railway Protection Force has launched a nationwide operation to curb human trafficking. As part of "**Operation AAHT**", special teams will be deployed on all long-distance trains/routes with focus on rescuing victims, particularly women and children, from the clutches of traffickers. As part of "Operation AAHT", the infrastructure and intelligence network of the force could be utilised to collect, collate and analyse clues on victims, source, route, destination, popular trains used by suspects, identity of carriers/agents, kingpins etc and shared with other law-enforcing agencies.
- Kerala Governor gave his assent for the controversial ordinance to amend the **Kerala Lokayukta Act 1999**. With this amendment, the state government would have the power to "either accept or reject the verdict of the Lokayukta after an opportunity of being heard".
- 7 Bravehearts of Railway Protection Force (Indian Railway) to be conferred with Jeevan Raksha Padak Series of Awards 2021. The **Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak** is awarded to members of the armed forces, police, or fire services in addition to civilians in recognition to their conspicuous acts of valor beyond the course of their duty running grave risks to their own lives leading to saving precious lives. The award carries a medal, a certificate and a cash reward of Rs. 2 (two) lakhs.
- The government's recent announcement that the **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana** which provides ₹5,000 for first child will be extended to cover the second child only if it is a girl has met with sharp criticism from activists who have demanded that it be universalised.
- The **Kawal Tiger Reserve** is going to host its first ever 'Bird Walk'. It is Tiger reserve in Telangana established in 2012
- **Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)** has carried out coastal vulnerability assessment for entire Indian coast at States level to bring out an Atlas comprising 156 maps on 1:1,00,000 scales to prepare a Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI).
- Scientists from the **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)** have found a new mammal species in the country — the White Cheeked Macaque at Arunachal Pradesh
- Recently, A team at the Joint European Torus (JET) facility near Oxford in central England generated 59 megajoules of sustained energy during an experiment in December, more than doubling a 1997 record. **Nuclear Fusion** is a process where two or more atomic nuclei fuse to form a single heavier nucleus releasing huge amount of energy
- Elon Musk's Starlink has lost dozens of satellites that were caught in a geomagnetic storm a day after they were launched. **GEOMAGNETIC STORMS** are magnetic plasma ejected at great speed from the solar surface



- Recently, Andhra Pradesh government banned a 100-year-old play named '**Chintamani Padya Natakam**' due to various reasons
- The President of India paid floral tributes to **Dr Zakir Hussain**, former President of India, on his birth anniversary
- **Capacity Building Commission (CBC)** and **Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA)** to the Government of India jointly called for a virtual session involving S&T departments and councils of all states to discuss the need for working knowledge of new-age technologies, process improvements, reskilling or upskilling and human resource development.
- Prime Minister pays his obeisances to **Sri Madhwacharya** on Madhwa Navmi
- Protest in Thrissur District of Kerala against **kalkazhukichoottu ritual** was conducted. Kalkazhukichoottu is a ritual of washing the feet of Brahmins and feeding them. It is said the ritual is meant to get rid of the sins committed with or without one's knowledge.
- Only one-fourth of the required number of **Disha meetings** have taken place, Union Rural Development Minister informed Lok Sabha. It stands for District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee is Responsible for monitoring the implementation of 43 government schemes and programmes including NREGS and PMGSY
- **Australia's koalas** have now been officially classified as 'endangered' after widespread bushfires, drought and land clearing destroyed much of their eucalyptus-rich habitat.
- To mark **Deendayal Upadhyay's** death anniversary, the National Monuments Authority organised an international webinar on preserving monuments and heritage recently. The event saw participation by 20 countries including was held in collaboration with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).
- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro)** successfully launched its earth observation satellite **EOS-4** and two co-passenger technology demonstrator and scientific satellites from the first launch pad at the country's only spaceport in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh recently.
- **LCA TEJAS** to participate in **Singapore air show -2022**. It is Single engined, light weight, highly agile, multi-role supersonic fighter aircraft
- The **Registry Building**, a two-storey structure at **Chandernagore**, West Bengal built in 1875 and a symbol of French settlement of the colonial town, has been awaiting restoration for a long time.
- Prime Minister pays tributes to **Maharaja Surajmal** on his Jayanti. He was a Hindu Jat ruler of Bharatpur in Rajasthan
- **Rahul Bajaj** passed away on February 12, 2022. He was known the world over and, of course, in India for being a very successful, ethical, and philanthropic businessman.
- To mark the successful completion of training of 127 Air Force Special Forces Operatives of Garud Force, **Maroon Beret Ceremonial Parade** was held recently
- **Srirama Nagaram**, where 108 Vaishnavite shrines have been set up along with the Statue of Equality, was sure to be known as land of devotion and equality which is the cornerstone of our democracy. The President formally inaugurated the 120-kg statue of Sri





**Ramanujacharya** made of gold as part of the Sriramanuja Sahasrabdi Samaroh, marking the 1,000 years of the birth of the saint poet at Muchintal in Telangana.

- Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment launched the Central Sector scheme “**SMILE: Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise**”. This umbrella scheme, designed by Department of Social Justice & Empowerment, is set to provide welfare and rehabilitation to the Transgender community and the people engaged in the act of begging.
- With a view to check any further rise in the prices of domestic edible oils due to rise in the prices of edible oils globally, the Government of India has reduced the **agri-cess for Crude Palm Oil (CPO)** from 7.5% to 5%
- Camp for free Assistive Devices distribution organized for Divyangjan and Senior Citizens in Tikamgarh (M.P) under ‘**Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana**’ (**RVY Scheme**) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. It aims to provide aids and assistive living devices to senior citizens belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) category who suffer from age-related disabilities
- **India’s retail inflation** accelerated past the 6% mark in January to hit 6.01%, breaching the central bank’s tolerance threshold for consumer price inflation for the first time since June 2021.
- One of the three persons diagnosed with **Lassa fever** in the UK has died as per recent reports. Lassa fever caused by virus, That is found in West Africa, first discovered in 1969 in Lassa, Nigeria. It is spread by Rats
- Project proposals for more than 60,000 houses were approved for construction in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Rajasthan at the 58th meeting of Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC) under **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)** recently
- India plans to prepare digital maps of all its 6,00,000 villages and pan-India 3D maps will be prepared for 100 cities, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology said at an event to mark a year of the updated geospatial policy guidelines. It will help **SVAMITVA scheme**
- PM visited **Guru Ravidas** shrine in UP on account of Guru Ravidas Jayanti. Ravidas Jayanti is celebrated on Magh Purnima, the full moon day in the month of Magh according to the Hindu lunar calendar.
- Indian Scientists have developed a first-of-its-kind tool for understanding **the process of long-term memory consolidation** in the brain by capturing the neural signals from rodent brain. Learning and memory are the fundamental processes of brain and are one of the most intensively studied subjects in the field of neuroscience. Learning is attributed to the acquisition of new data and memory. Retention of the acquired data leads to long-term memory (LTM) formation. The new tool which uses the behavioral tagging model is a novel one to study LTM consolidation through behavioral analysis
- Maharashtra assembly will get a new **Speaker** in its budget session. It is done as per Article 178



- Chief Justice of India has questioned the Centre over vacancies in various **tribunals** despite the Supreme Court nudging the government to fill them up soon. Tribunals are Statutory, quasi-judicial body which Resolve disputes in a speedy, cost-effective and inefficient manner that are brought before it. They were Added by 42nd Amendment Act, 1976 with a new Part XIV-A to the Constitution on recommendation of Swaran Singh Committee
- **Jal Jeevan Mission** Achieves Milestone Of Providing Tap Water To 9 Crore Rural Homes. Launched in 2019, the mission envisages supply of 55 litres of water per person per day to every rural household through Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC) by 2024. It is Under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- The pristine beach of Dhanushkodi at the southern-most tip of the Rameswaram island in the Indian peninsula has witnessed a rare phenomenon over the past few days. Thousands of **Crimson Rose butterflies** swarmed all available flowering plants along the beach.
- 75th raising day of **Delhi police** recently celebrated. Under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Home Affairs
- Bihar Chief Minister said February 15 would henceforth be commemorated as “**Shahid Diwas**” in memory of the 34 freedom fighters who were killed by police in **Tarapur** town of Bihar. On February 15, 1932, a group of young freedom fighters planned to hoist an Indian national flag at Thana Bhavan in Tarapur were shot
- **Medaram Jathara 2022** recently commenced. Also known as Sammakka Saralamma Jatara, It is a tribal festival honoring the fight of a mother and daughter, Sammakka and Saralamma, with the reigning rulers against an unjust law. It is Second-largest fair of India, after the Kumbh Mela, celebrated by the second-largest Tribal Community of Telangana- the Koya tribe
- Former Vice-Chief of Naval Staff Vice-Admiral **G. Ashok Kumar** has been appointed the first **National Maritime Security Coordinator (NMSC)** in the National Security Council Secretariat
- The **National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** has relaxed the eligibility criteria for accreditation of higher educational institutions.
- Tamil Nadu has made it clear to the Supreme Court that it does not want the **Indian Neutrino Observatory (INO)** to be set up in a sensitive ecological zone in the Western Ghats at a great cost to wildlife and biodiversity, and by ignoring the local opposition to the project.
- India’s **first water taxi service** was inaugurated in **Maharashtra** recently, that connects the Navi Mumbai area to mainland Mumbai.
- National Institute of Animal Biotechnology, Hyderabad developed Fluorine Doped Tin Oxide (FTO) electrode fabricated with reduced Graphene Oxide (rGO) for as an electrochemical based immunosensor for the rapid, sensitive and specific detection of the **Non-Structural 1 (NS1) secretory protein**, which is suitable biomarker for Japanese encephalitis virus found circulating in the blood and has been reported to elicit an immune response.



- The Supreme Court set aside a Punjab and Haryana High Court order staying a controversial State law which provides **75% reservation for local youth in private sector** jobs paying less than ₹30,000 a month.
- Government has approved the scheme of **Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)** for continuation till 31.03.2026 or till further review, whichever is earlier. It is a centrally Sponsored Scheme launched in October 2013 for funding the state government universities and colleges to achieve the aims of equity, access and excellence
- The Centre recently notified the **green hydrogen and green ammonia policy** aimed at boosting the domestic production of green hydrogen to 5 million tonnes by 2030 and making India an export hub for the clean fuel.
- The Union Environment Ministry notified **extended producer responsibility (EPR)** guidelines for plastic packaging waste. It mandates recycling and reusing a certain percentage of plastic produced by manufacturers, importers and brand owners
- PM recently inaugurated municipal solid waste based **Gobar-Dhan/BIO-CNG plant** in Indore. BIO-CNG is purified form of biogas with over 95% pure methane gas
- The Government of India, the State Governments of Karnataka and Odisha and the World Bank have signed a \$115 million (INR 869 crore) Programme called **Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development (REWARD) Programme** that will help national and state institutions adopt improved watershed management practices to help increase farmers' resilience to climate change, promote higher productivity and better incomes.
- Government of India approves ₹ 235 crore **Legacy Waste Remediation Proposal of Andhra Pradesh**. This is the largest one-time approval of funds for legacy dumpsite remediation
- The Centre approved the implementation of Phase II of the **Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) project** by the Ministry of Home Affairs during the period from 2022-23 to 2025-26. It is a National platform for enabling integration of the main IT system used for delivery of Criminal Justice in the country that aims to integrate the five pillars of the system viz Police (through Crime and Criminal Tracking and Network Systems), e-Forensics for Forensic Labs, e-Courts for Courts, e-Prosecution for Public Prosecutors and e-Prisons for Prisons
- Health authorities in Malawi, Africa have declared an outbreak of **wild poliovirus type 1** after a case was confirmed in a 3-year-old girl in the capital, Lilongwe. It is a infectious disease caused by the poliovirus that destroys nerve cells in the spinal cord causing muscle wasting and paralysis
- Birth anniversary of '**Tamil Thatha**' **U. Ve. Swaminatha Iyer** celebrated. He is Admired for his contribution to Tamil culture and language, he popularised works from the Sangam era and helped conserve precious heritage
- The Supreme Court asked the Union and the State governments to respond to a petition to enforce the **fundamental duties** of citizens, including patriotism and unity of the nation, through "comprehensive, well-defined laws". It is under Article 51A



- Recently, Prime Minister flagged off **100 kisan drones** in different cities and towns of India, in order to help farmers in spraying pesticides in their farms. DRONE is Layman terminology for Unmanned Aircraft
- President of India took part in the **Indian Navy's 12th Presidential Fleet Review**. In simplest terms, it is the country's President taking stock of the Navy's capability
- 48th edition of **Khajuraho Dance Festival** was recently held. It is Organised by the Madhya Pradesh Kala Parishad
- PM condoles the passing away of noted Gandhian **Shakuntala Choudhary**
- Government hosted the "**Janbhagidari Empowerment**" portal in **Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir**, in line with government's digital mission. It provides detailed insights to people into nature, status as well as number of developmental works that are being executed in their areas.
- **Assam government** is set to launch a four-year mentorship programme called **Project Arohan** in collaboration with Tata STRIVE ( skill development initiative by Tata Community Initiatives Trust ). Aim is to provide guidance to students and boost their skills
- **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAYG)** Dashboard was recently launched. It aims at stringent monitoring of the implementation of the scheme. The scheme aims at "Housing to All" by the year 2024
- **PM CARES for Children** Scheme Extended. It is special scheme for all those orphaned due to Covid-19, where eligible ones get stipend.
- 25th Meeting of **Financial Stability and Development Council** held. FSDC was set up in 2010 to monitors macro-prudential supervision of the economy
- **Angadias** facing threatened in south Mumbai. It is a parallel banking system in the country where traders send cash generally from one state to another through a person called Angadia that stands for courier
- The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) in association with Startup India has launched the '**Ayush Start-up Challenge**' to encourage start-ups and individuals working on innovations in the field of Ayurveda and alternative healing. AYUSH stands for Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy
- The Kerala Nattukala Kshema Sabha (KNKS), an outfit that works for the promotion of local art forms in the state, has demanded that **Karakattam** (also known as Kumbakkali in certain parts) be recognised as the agricultural art form of Kerala
- **Alcyoneus Galaxy** was discovered using the Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE) telescope and the Low-Frequency Array (LOFAR) network. At present it is the largest galaxy by size
- **Japan** has launched its **first hydrogen-powered train** named **HYBARI** . Germany launched the world's first train in 2018.
- India's **Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa** has defeated the reigning world champion Norway's Magnus Carlsen
- Celebration of 3rd Anniversary of **PM-Kisan Scheme** . Under the scheme financial benefit of Rs 6000/- per year in three equal instalments, every four month is transferred into the bank accounts of farmers' families across the country through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode



- **National WASH Conclave-2022** was organized recently by National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj with theme “WASH Forward: Advancing Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Panchayats”
- Jammu & Kashmir’s Lieutenant Governor has approved a **foreign direct investment (FDI)** policy for the union territory with a foreign stake of a minimum of 51 percent. This new policy has been based on the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade’s (DPIIT) and Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI) guiding framework on FDI.
- Researchers of Bhakta Kavi Narsinh Mehta University (BKNMU), Junagadh, discovered a new species of spider and named it Narsinhmehtai in honour of **Narsinh Mehta**, who is considered adikavi (the first poet) and bhakta kavi (devout poet) in Gujarati literature . However it is being opposed
- Russia’s **Daniil Medvedev** will be the new ATP No. 1, replacing Djokovic who would have held the spot for a record 361 weeks
- Professor Neena Gupta, conferred the **Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians 2021**. It is awarded annually by “International Centre for Theoretical Physics” in Italy
- India’s **Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas**, that has been indigenously designed, developed and manufacture, is set to take part in the famed ‘Cobra Warrior’ exercises. Cobra Warrior is a multi-nation air exercise, that will be held at Royal Air Force (station) Waddington in United Kingdom
- An idol of Lord Hanuman, which was stolen a decade ago from Tamil Nadu’s Ariyalur district and smuggled abroad, will be brought back to India soon. Built between the 14th and 15th centuries, during the period of the Vijayanagara empire, the statue was recently found in possession of a private buyer in Australia
- **India Navy’s Milan 2022** exercise conducted recently. Around 40 nations participated. Theme is ‘Camaraderie – Cohesion – Collaboration
- Indian and Japanese armies to start their annual **Dharma Guardian** at the Foreign Training Node in Belgaum, Karnataka
- The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Pune, has discovered a **new frog species** which are growing in the freshwater regions along all the states spanning the Western Ghats. It is named **Euphlyctis jaladhara**
- Odisha ex-CM **Hemananda Biswal** dead
- The Reserve Bank of India has amended the **Payments and Settlement Systems Regulations**. This system allows the companies who are seeking to run payment businesses to apply for licenses from the regulator
- **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)**, the premier Telecom R&D centre of the Government of India has bagged three awards at 12th Annual Aegis Graham Bell Awards for its indigenously designed & developed innovative Telecom solutions in various categories.
- **HAL’s AMCA and IMRH programmes** to be implemented under **SPV model** . AMCA is programme to get indigenously fighter Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) with geometric stealth and IMRH is to get Indian Multi-Role Helicopter (IMRH) as a replacement for the MI-17 helicopters in service



- Government of India launched **National Policy Guidelines on Bio-Medical Innovation and Entrepreneurship** recently. It aims to Develop an entrepreneurial environment in India that will be innovation-driven with the ultimate goal of improving human health and well-being
- **Ombudsman App for MGNREGA** was recently released for smooth categorization and reporting of grievances. Launched in 2006 , it provides Legal guarantee for 100 days of wage employment to every household in the rural areas of the country each year
- Aviation and defence colossus Boeing delivered India's 12th maritime surveillance and anti-submarine warfare **P-8I aircraft**. It is designed for long-range anti-submarine warfare (ASW), anti-surface warfare (ASuW), and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) missions
- Birth anniversary of the **Dayanand Saraswati** recently celebrated
- **International Intellectual Property Index** published by US Chamber of Commerce's Global Innovation Policy Center
- The **Intracortical Visual Prosthesis (ICVP)** is a type of implant that bypasses the optic nerves and the retina to link directly to the brain's visual cortex. At Rush University Medical Center, this was successfully placed surgically in the study's first participant.
- The Government of India has approved the continuation of the **Immigration Visa Foreigners Registration Tracking (IVFRT) Scheme** for a period of five years to 2026 . It is under ministry of Home affairs
- **Goa** celebrates its annual '**Carnaval**' or **carnival**, the colourful festival, a vestige of the state's erstwhile Portuguese rulers
- **National Science Day** is celebrated every year on 28 February to mark the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' by **Sir C.V. Raman** on 28 February 1928
- Sixth Prime Minister of India, Morarji Desai was born on 29th February 1896 in Gujarat
- Death anniversary of **Veer Savarkar** observed
- Prime Minister praised Tanzanian social media stars, the brother-sister duo of **Kili and Neema Paul**, for lip-syncing to the Indian national anthem on Republic Day, and paying tribute to Lata Mangeshkar
- India's **first e-waste eco-park** to come up at Delhi
- **Anoop Kumar Mendiratt** became the first Union Law Secretary to be appointed as a High Court judge
- PM congratulates **Sadia Tariq** on winning Gold medal at Moscow Wushu Stars Championship
- Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is organising "**Devayatanam Conference**". Devayatanam conference is a two-day international conference. 'Devayatanam is an odyssey of Indian temple architecture. Conference is being at **Hampi, Karnataka**.
- The **Indo-Oman** exercise, **Eastern Bridge-VI (2022)** was successfully conducted at Air Force Station Jodhpur
- A 1.7-megawatt solar photovoltaic plant has been commissioned by **Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL)** at **Bina**, Madhya Pradesh for the Indian Railways. It is **Indian Railway's First Solar Power Plant**



- **Global banking group Standard Chartered** announced its partnership with **International Air Transport Association (IATA)** to launch a payment platform for airline industry in India

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## INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

- **3rd World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day** recently observed on **January 31**. They are Diverse group of tropical infections which are common in low-income populations in developing regions of Africa, Asia, and the Americas. Day was first started in 2019 by prince of Abu Dhabi
- **H. E. Antonio Costa** re-elected as Prime Minister of Portugal
- Japan's parliament resolution expressing concern about rights issues in China, including the treatment of its Uighur Muslim population and the city of Hong Kong.
- **Amnesty International** labelled **Israel** an "**apartheid**" state that treats Palestinians as "**an inferior racial group**," joining the assessment of other rights groups which the Jewish state vehemently rejects.
- Terming China's decision to field a People's Liberation Army (PLA) soldier involved in the June 2020 Galwan clashes as the torchbearer for the **Winter Olympics Games in Beijing** as "regrettable", **India** announced a **diplomatic boycott** of the games just ahead of the opening ceremony
- The **ASEAN-India High Level Conference** on Renewable Energy, being organized by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and the Ministry of External Affairs of Government of India on 7-8 February 2022 commenced today. The High Level Conference, over a period of two days, will focus on the theme: "Experience and Innovations for Integrated Renewables Market"
- New Delhi and Colombo are discussing a proposal for the supply of **two Dornier aircraft** for the **Sri Lankan military**. The Dornier is a twin-engine multi-purpose aircraft, used by the Indian Navy and Coast Guard for maritime surveillance. It is manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd under licence from Swiss company RUAG, and is a showpiece of the government's "Make In India" programme.
- **4th Quad Foreign Ministers Meet** was recently held in **Melbourne**. It is Quadrilateral security dialogue with Japan, India, United States and Australia
- US Congress passes Bill to end forced arbitration in sexual assault, harassment cases
- The **4th India – Australia Energy Dialogue** was recently held. Energy Transition was a major area of discussion in the dialogue
- **Kuwait's** constitutional court has struck down a contentious law long used to criminalise transgender people by forbidding the "imitation of the opposite sex." The law had set the maximum penalty for cross-dressing at one-year in prison or a fine of USD 3,300.
- Inviting **Taiwanese** companies to make more investments in Karnataka, Large and Medium Industries Minister promised to extend support and cooperation of the state government
- Every year, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**) celebrates **21st February** as **International Mother Language Day** to promote mother tongue-based multilingual education since 2000.
- **India – UAE** signed an **Free Trade Agreement** pact recently
- Storm Eunice hits Britain





- On 20th February, the **World Day of Social Justice** is observed annually by UNGA. This day works towards promoting social justice. Theme 2022 - 'Achieving Social Justice through Formal Employment'
- **European Commission** published its **draft Data Act** recently. It is aimed at making data sharing and using easier and set a standard at EU-wide level
- The U.S., Europe and several other western nations are moving to exclude Russia from **SWIFT** . It is a Messaging network used by banks and financial institutions globally
- Cyclone **Emnati** wreaked havoc on Madagascar

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